Dragon Fire II Expeditionary Fires Technology Demonstrator

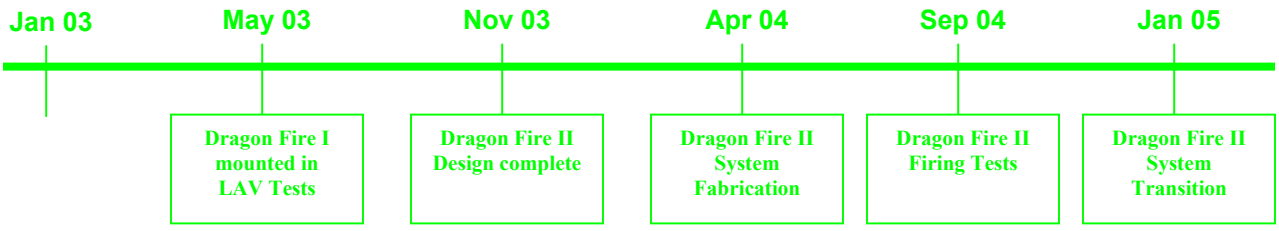
Purpose: Provide a concept demonstrator of an expeditionary fire support system (EFSS) that has the potential to be as mobile as the ground forces it supports as stipulated in the Expeditionary Fire Support System (EFSS) Mission Need Statement (MNS).

Background: In 1997, the Warfighting Lab developed and experimented with the Dragon Fire, an indirect fire concept demonstrator. Since then, MCCDC has published the EFSS MNS for a light, mobile fire support system configured to support the requirements of Expedition Maneuver Warfare (EMW). The Dragon Fire II is the next generation system, which will incorporate all of the "lessons learned" from the first Dragon Fire experiments to make this system an advanced technology candidate for the EFSS requirement. In addition, the Dragon Fire II is being designed to satisfy the Expeditionary Fire Support Platform (EFSP) requirement to provide effective fires from a Light Armored Vehicle (LAV).

Description: A compact, automated 120mm rifled mortar that can be readily deployed from amphibious shipping either internally within a MV-22 or CH-53, towed by a HMMWV or LAV, or internally loaded and fired from a LAV. The Dragon Fire II can be emplaced and displaced rapidly, has configuration options and on-board communications, navigation and fire control. It is a rifled, recoiling mortar that can traverse 6400 mils and is self-loading. EFTD V2 has a range of 8,200M (13,000M with rocket assisted projectile) and a rate of fire of 10 rounds/min for 2 minutes and 4 rounds/min sustained. It has on-board digital communications and will be capable of full sensor-to-shooter (and remote) operation. This system specifically is designed to provide a concept demonstrator for the EFSS MNS. Development of the LAV mounted configuration of this system will include experiments to develop a fire–on-the-move capability to increase unit agility and responsiveness.

Deliverable Product(s): Prototypes for operational experimentation and requirements documentation.

Milestones:



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